

Intervention: Encourage the collaboration of educational programs and local health offices

Finding: Insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

Promoting the collaboration of educational programs and local health offices includes establishing and enhancing linkages between academia and public health practice and community sector partners. This intervention encourages schools of public health, public health training centers, and other educational programs to be more responsive to the recruitment and training needs of district and local health offices.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

Research found insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness for collaboration of educational programs and local health offices as a means to enhance a sufficient and competent public health workforce.

Practices that lack sufficient research to support effectiveness should not be confused with ineffective programs. Rather, they should be recognized as programs that have the potential to become evidence-based practices—if properly evaluated. Practitioners are encouraged to monitor the impact of these programs in their communities and report on their findings in order to build a base of knowledge sufficient to reach consensus.

Limitations/Comments:

The research cited was in part based on recommendations from the Council of Public Health Practice Coordinators of the Association of Schools of Public Health in a consensus study. See the link below for more information.

Additional information:

Public Health Workforce Study, Council of Public Health Coordinators –
www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/healthworkforce/reports/publichealth/default.htm

References:

Wright K, Nelson J, Potter M, Quill B. Demonstrating Excellence in Academic Public Health Practice. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* 2000; 6(1):10-24.